

# Observations / Insights / Inspirations

- Ending up on deer trails
- Let things happen, things will fall into place
- The Bridge
  - This is where we meet other people
  - Mythic nexus
    - Meet me by the bridge
    - Perhaps the only people crossing of the creek?
    - Fruit planted around it, a place to stop and be, wait for other people
- Strawberry Fields Forever
  - Getting on the ground and grazing strawberries with your mouth, no hands
- Tall Juniper near the Moontime area
- Eating the cat tail pollen right off the anthers
- Japanese knotweed
  - Lyme Disease preventative
  - “Invasive”
  - What is it telling us?
- Sacred Spaces
  - For....
    - Birthing
    - Death
    - Rites of Passage
    - Grieving
    - Graveyard / Burial Space
      - Wood Chip Burial - Mycelium - Asclepias and Monarch butterflies
- Spring/seep emerged where the old farm house used to be during tear down, clean up, filling in the basement
- Clean Up Process on the land
  - Document with photos
    - This is part of the story, people need and want to see this
  - Its part of the story of how to make things right
  - Childhood memories (thrills) of coming upon a trash heap in the woods
    - Treasure!
- Trees John Michael planted still growing
  - Ginko
  - Swamp Oak
  - Hawthorn
  - Elderberry
- Fire Quests
  - Snails make audible noises in the leaves at night, eating leaves, moving
- Crow sounds on the land

- Juvenile crow calls - "MaaaaaM!"
- White Oak Groves
  - Families of deer will adopt a grove, make it the center of their range, can support them through a winter with low-tannic acid abundant mast
  - Oak Savannah - can we bring it back?
    - Oak Wilt - planting single / small clumps of trees instead of groves helps to mitigate spread of the Oak Wilt
    - Trees will graft roots and can share the wilt that way
- Active Care Taking of the land
  - Let's plant some oaks to soften the edges / corners of the fields
  - Power - Duty - Stewardship - Care Takers
  - Mushroom Culture
    - Mycelial web restoration
    - Hugelkultur
  - Rapid soil development and fertility increase possible with active forest management
  - Humans have been moving through this landscape for millennia
    - The disruptions and stagnations is relatively recent and new from the perspective of the land
- Trail Cameras
  - Who is here? When and where are they moving about?
  - How can we respect them already being here?
    - Not wanting to push them out with our presence
  - Be aware of who is already here - how can we be with them?
- **White Buffalo Woman, I seek Your Vision (a version of the song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R5JsVJ1RtJ0>)**
- Wild Life Corridors
  - Coyote Village
    - Dens honeycombed throughout hillside
    - When are they having pups? Be respectful of their space and home
  - What are the traffic patterns for small game?
    - Especially along eastern border, wooded corridor
- Piles of dead bees at the hives on Eastern property boundary
- This land misses its original people
  - How can we help the process of making amends?
  - What does that look like?
- Several spaces where forest was opened up, had a bowl shape, felt like an outdoor classroom / gathering space
- Property Boundaries
  - Given the current dynamics with neighbors it feels important to have Eastern Boundary (and perhaps all) well marked interstitially between the boundary posts
    - Part of welcoming newcomers is orienting them to the current human climate

- Make it easy for people to stay within the bounds of the property in the interest of good neighbor relations
- Masculine & Feminine energetic zones on the land
- Arch of maple trees along eastern edge of two track - a beautiful place and view
- Intentional Taboo
  - Create taboo as part of the larger system(s)
  - Can be a tool to enhance reverence, create space for the unknown and unknowable
  - Creates a dynamic tension in the culture of this place
- Human Expression
  - My daughter felt FREE on this land
    - Let go of societal dogmas, culturally communicated repressions of authentic self
  - How can we honor all who come here?
    - Freedom from “boxing” / labeling / categorizing
  - Masculine and feminine are different than male and female
- Evidence of Self-Healing On The Land
  - How can we recognize, harmonize, encourage and aid these natural processes?
  - Keyline patterning evident in the way a tree fell across the side of a hill
    - Fallen logs were gathering detritus, storing moisture, and providing a place for seedlings to germinate and re-forest a barren site

# Emergent Threads & Energies

- **Connection With Nature**
  - **Deep Nature Connection**
  - **Abundance - Thrival**
  - Designated wild spaces, corridors, abundant wildlife
  - Care-taking and stewardship
    - Tending the woods
    - Tending the wild
  - Lots of places that encourage “moments” to happen
  - Harmonious Human Presence and Habitation
  - Sustainability
  - Regeneration
  - Restoration
- **Connection With Self**
  - Slow, Natural, Relaxed - Pace of life
  - Freedom from burnout
  - Free Expression for Healthy Humans
  - Healing, Purification, Sufficiency
  - Prayer & Reverence
- **Connection With Each other/community**
  - Inclusiveness
  - Shared Fires
    - Ceremonial, Elders Fires, Celebratory, Firequests
  - Love
  - Inclusiveness
  - Working Village
  - Laughter, Playfulness, Spontaneity
  - Compassion, Ego-Liberation, Inter-Dependence
  - Song, Dance, Spirit, Colorful Ceremony
  - Anatomy of ceremony: clear physical thresholds for energetic expression
  - Elder Wisdom
  - Natural Birthing and Dying
  - Healthy Grief
    - Trauma Metabolism and Processing
  - Clear and Strong Invitations
  - For newcomers to the land
  - Cultural Healing
  - Gatherings => Drum Circles, Ecstatic Dance
    - Which ones aren't happening for lack of a place?
    - Right size important
      - 140 at most?

- What can we do with this?
- Education and Skills Share
  - Skill Swap
- Transitional Spaces - physical movement part of transitioning between activities, energies, etc

# Element Ideas

- **Food**
  - Farmed
    - Orchard?
    - No-till farming, gardening
    - Silvopasture
    - Rotational Grazing
      - Heritage Breed Livestock
      - Soil Building
    - Personal Gardens
    - Bees
    - Mushrooms
  - Hunted
    - Deer
    - Opossum
    - Fowl
      - Guinea Fowl
    - Fish - Mariner Guild
  - Foraged
    - Mushrooms
    -
- **Guilds**
  - Forest Tenders
  - Medicine Makers
  - Trackers & Hunters / Scouts
  - Natural Builders
  - Restoration Agriculture / Regenerative Farming
  - Birthing
  - Dying
  - Mariners
    - Swimming, Boat Building, Sailing
  - Seasonal Makemanship
    - Year-round crafting guilds
- **Medicine**
  - Harvest, forage and grow sustainably
  - Forest medicine cabinet
  - Medicine for the land
  - Wilderness First Responder Trainings
- **Art**
  - Art as gateway to connection (nature, each other, self)
  - Bio-degradable

- From the land - Monument to the story of place, art as a way of manifesting intentions
  - Trash cleaned up from dump sites on the land - can it be used to create something beautiful and tell the story of the clean up and revitalization of the land?
  - Art that honors
- **Built Structures**
  - Timber Frame Barn
  - Lodge
    - Library
  - Shop
    - Utility space
    - Blacksmith shop / capacity?
  - Maker Space / Crafting Space
    - Rocket mass heat source
  - Natural Homes
  - Outdoor Kitchen - extension of commercial kitchen
  - Root Cellar
  - 
  - Bridge over the creek
    - Do we just leave it at the one? Two? How many?
    - Make it beautiful, a place to be in an of itself, not just for passing through
    - Living bridge with pleached willow or other tree?
  - Dwellings
    - Earth-embedded housing
      - Earthships: <http://www.biotopeplanetearth.com/>
      - WOFATIs -
    - Beautiful works of live-in art
  - Natural Amphitheatre
  - Sugar Shack
  - Natural Swimming Pool -
  - Personal Care
    - Bathhouse / Sauna
  - Composting Toilet
  - Camping Zone
  - Flush toilet (located in lodge)
  - Outdoor Classroom
    - Med Tent
- **Living Structures**
  - Hedgerows
    - Food Hedges = “Fedges”
  - Living fences
    - Espalier

- Pleaching
    - Tree-weaving
  - Living Bridge over creek, through wetland areas
  - Living playground
- **Events / Gatherings**
  - 5K Trail Walk Fundraiser?
    - 5K Fox Walk
  - Ninja Camp
  - Partner Organizations
    - [Title Track](#)
    - [Great Lakes Traditional Arts Institute](#)
    - Skill Swaps
    - [Michigan Folk School](#)
    - [Art of Mentoring](#)
  - Autonomous guild gatherings
    - Men's and Women's gatherings
    - Sweat Lodges
  - Tours
  - Seasonal Celebrations
  - Clear agreements for using space, maintenance and care
  - HNS Hosted Events
    - Seasonal dinners, fires, barn dances, pancake breakfast, hoedown
- **Energy Systems**
  - Off-Grid
    - Long term
    - Solar PV - small scale
    - Solar Water Heating
    - Contacts
      - Bill Queen: <https://harvestenergysolutions.com/news>
      - Angela Mackie: <https://lightofdayorganics.com/>
    - Zero Point Experimentation - Toroidal Generators
  - Back Up Systems
    - Propane as bridging technologies towards a lower-energy future
  - Wood:
    - Coppicing systems as renewable fuel / biomass source
      - Utilizing black locust, existing species for fuelwood production
      - Rocket Stove designs
- **Places For Children**
  - Treehouses
  - Build Your Own
  - Mowed Mazes
    - Matt will not be the one mowing :)
  - Reference



- [A Pattern Language](#), sections on Children's homes and places for children
  - Intuition
- **Boundaries**
  - Beautiful, natural boundaries
    - Distinct, clear transitions between zones
    - Art in the landscape as boundary / zonal markers
    - Strongly visible Eastern boundary in particular
  - Hunting Season - posting the property to keep out wayward hunting
    - Snow mobile the trails
  - Biodiversity Hot Spots known, marked, revered and off limits
- **Access**
  - Commercial
    - Fire Trucks to turn around @ SW entrance
  - Residential
    - Wheeled Handi-Cap for certain residences
    - Electric Cart accessible
      - Solar Powered Golf Carts?
  - Easements
    - Eastern Easement doesn't need to be fire truck compatible
    - Can be dirt 2 track
  - Foot Paths
- **Communication**
  - Back Up Communications
    - Buried landlines internal to property
  - Message Board
    - Chalk board at the bridge, lodge, congregating spaces
  - Dinner Bell
  - Horns
  - Whistle
  - Vocal Communications
    - Known and shared sounds for communicating over distance, beyond sight
  - Trail Cameras

# Functions & Activities

- **Zones of Belonging for different ages / stages**
  - Natural Trend towards increased autonomy with successive Rites of Passage
  - Different levels of environmental tending based on Zonal activities and residents
  - Taboo places
    - Dynamic tension of taboo, intentional creation
- **Culture of Mentorship**
  - Elder Wisdom, Integrated Elderhood
  - Guild System Mentoring/Learning
  - Elder Mobility and Accessibility
    - Intergenerational housing for caretaking of elders
  - Birthing and Dying on the Land
    - Green burial, earth connected (Green burial cemeteries-  
<https://www.funeralinformationsociety.org/green-burial.html>)
    - Nancy Gallager as local resource
- **Social <-> Solitary Gradients**
  - And the continuum between
  - Play spaces, work spaces, loud places, quiet places
  - Places of Significance
    - Quiet <---> Loud by agreement
    - Communication
- **Forest Tending**
  - Maple syruping
  - Soil Building and Fertility
  - Reforestation
  - Forest Gardening (with Guilds)
    - Tending the wild (Kerri's Cricket Farm)
    - Farming The Woods - URL
- **Story Of Place**
  - Gathering Phenological Info
    - Storytelling, build calendars, outreach tools
      - Water, Animals, Plants, Fungi, Weather, Cosmological, etc.
      - Example of Leopold Phenological Calendar -  
<https://www.aldoleopold.org/post/2019-phenolgoy-calendar-the-ecology-of-phenology/>
  - Acknowledge Capacity of the Land with Event Hosting
    - Larger events in collaboration with larger community
    - Awareness of soundscapes
    - How can we be place based without exhausting the land base?
  - Geological Story
    - Glacial landscapes and their innate characteristics

- **Being**
  - Practice Right/Healthy Relationship
    - Allowing space for all of the feelings
    - Processing disappointment
    - Without attachment to the outcome
  - Modeling, accommodating, facilitating (context) active observations from other communities
  - Compassionate Communication
  - Conflict Resolution Process
  - Questioning
    - Staying alive to the ever-continuing journey of learning/relationship
  - Hunting
- **Economic Sustainability**
  - Culinary Experiences
    - Classes (foraging and cooking)
    - Fermentation of food and beverage
    - Farm to Table dinners
    - Sensory awareness eating experiences
  - HNS Core Educational Curriculum
    - Potential: Expand into adult, forest Kindergarten
    - Current: summer camps
  - Cottage Industries
    - Medicine Making, Value-Added Home Produce, Maple Syrup etc.
  - Regenerative Farming
  - Guild Revenue Generation
    - Tree Nursery - for use on site and for putting out into the world
- **Abundance (true wealth)**
  - Feeding people (with overflowing abundance)
  - Remembering the greater community